

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LOME 02088 031305Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----061833 031306Z /53

R 031145Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2607
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

S E C R E T LOME 2088

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR DM TO
SUBJ: EYADEMA ON BENIN

REF: A LOME 2085 (NOTAL) B LOME 2086 (NOTAL)

1. IN REFTELS, I DISCUSS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT EYADEMA THIS MORNING IN WHICH AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL VISIT TO TOGO CAME UP ALONG WITH QUESTION OF TOGOLESE MNLITARY PARTICIPATION IN IMET. THERE WAS, HOWEVER, AN UNEASY OVERTONE TO THE DISCUSSIONS IN WHICH THE QUESTION OF BENIN CAME UP REPEATEDLY. THERE SEEMED FAR TOO MUCH HOLLOW LAUGHTER WHEN BENINESE FEARS OF MERCENARY RAIDS WERE MENTIONED. EYADEMA READ ALOUD AN AFP DISPATCH IN WHICH PRESIDENT KEREKOU URGED HIS PEOPLE TO BE VIGILANT AGAINST IMPERIALIST MACHINATIONS, STOPPING FROM TIME TO TIME TO LAUGH WITH WHAT SEEMED FORCED HEARTINESS AT KEREKOU'S STATEMENTS. COL ASSILA, NO 2 IN MILITARY, AND COL DJAFALO, NO 3 IN MILITARY, WOULD DUTIFULLY JOIN HIM IN SUCH LAUGHTER.

2. THERE WAS LITTLE I COULD PUT MY FINGER ON THAT CAUSED ME TO FEEL THAT THEY SEEMED TO BE ILL AT EASE IN DISCUSSING
SECRET

SECRET

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BENIN AND THE QUESTION OF THE FUTURE OF THE KEREKOU REGIME. HOWEVER, I HAVE DISTINCT FEELING THAT SOMETHING IS UP AND THAT TOGOLESE MILITARY LEADERSHIP IS PRIVY TO POSSIBLE KNOWLEDGE EXTERNAL ACTION BEING PLANNED AGAINST BENIN.
PALMER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Sent Date: 03-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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